



AMERICAN  
PUBLIC  
TRANSPORTATION  
ASSOCIATION

June 19, 2006

The Honorable Mike Fitzpatrick  
1516 Longworth House Office Building  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20015

Dear Representative Fitzpatrick:

On behalf of the American Public Transportation Association (APTA), and its more than 1,600 member organizations, I write to express our appreciation and support for your effort to promote the use of public transportation by making it easier for individuals to use tax incentives that are already available to most citizens.

While current law permits employees who participate in employer-sponsored programs to receive up to \$105 per month in tax sheltered payroll deductions for transit commuting costs, this legislation would simply extend similar benefits for using public transportation to employees who are unable to participate in employer-sponsored programs, either because they are self employed or because their employers do not sponsor such a program.

At a time when fuel prices have hit consumers where it hurts, it makes great sense to encourage citizens to leave their cars at home and take the bus or train to work. Commuters who switch from cars to transit can reduce what they spend on gasoline, reduce our dependence on imported oil, and reduce traffic congestion.

If you have questions please have your staff contact Rob Healy of APTA's Government Affairs Department at (202) 498-4811 or email [rhealy@apta.com](mailto:rhealy@apta.com).

Thank you for consideration of our views.

Sincerely yours,

William W. Millar  
President

WWM/tjj

Chair  
Howard Silver

First Vice Chair  
Michael S. Townes

Secretary-Treasurer  
Paul P. Skoutelas

Immediate Past Chair  
Richard A. White

Vice Chairs  
Allen D. Blehler  
State Affairs  
Christopher P. Boylan  
Government Affairs

Mattie P. Carter  
Transit Board Members

Michael P. DePalo  
Rail Transit  
Fred M. Gilliam  
Bus and Paratransit Operations

Kim R. Green  
Business Members

John M. English  
Research and Technology

Jeanne Krieg  
Human Resources

William D. Lochte  
Business Member-at-Large

Gary W. McNeil  
Canadian Members

Jeffrey A. Nelson  
Small Operations

Vacant  
Management and Finance

David L. Turney  
Marketing and Communications

Kathryn D. Waters  
Commuter and Intercity Rail

President  
William W. Millar